

**Check Against Delivery**  
**APFSD 2023 Agenda Item 3 – Towards the 2023 SDG Summit**  
**UNDRR Intervention**  
**27 March 2023**

Mr. Chair, Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

We are at the midpoint of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. Its objectives are the reduction of risk and losses, and risk-informing development choices.

There is progress in some respects, however, we are not yet where we need to be. But overall, current trends indicate an increase in disaster risk and disasters of 40% by 2030 – we are going the opposite direction.

Disaster risk is created in our societies because of the economic, financial, social, environmental and political choices we make. It underpins our societal, life system, with cascading and compounded risk across sectors and geographies and population. It can have dramatic existential consequences. LLDCs, SIDS and LDCs, including those graduating, are facing hard impacts.

Systemic risk affects all SDGs and jeopardizes progress towards achieving them.

There are 25 targets related to disaster risk reduction across the SDGs, establishing disaster risk reduction as a key development strategy.

SDG 11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities, for example. Risk is local by nature. It is at the local level where local governments and communities need to be empowered and given the resources to manage disaster and climate risk in an inclusive manner, where vulnerabilities must be reduced and local, traditional and indigenous knowledge leveraged more.

Much stronger political determination, investment and cooperation are needed to risk inform development and change an otherwise doomed course of action.

It is essential that the political direction emerging from the Sendai Midterm Review meeting hosted by the President of the General Assembly in May be taken on by the SDG Summit later this year and the Global Stocktake of the Paris Agreement.

Thank you.